

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BUDE/STRATTON

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Lib-

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year 1964

Health Area Office,
Launceston,
Cornwall.

WILLIAM PATERSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health



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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BUDE/STRATTON

Members of the Public Health Committee:1964/5

S.LUCAS (Chairman)
B.PEPPER (Vice-Chairman)

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E.H.CHADD
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R.S.ROGERS
Mrs.W.F.SAUNDERS
A.A.SEYMOUR
Mrs.C.R.WARD
L.D.WILKES
E.WORDEN

- - - - -

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY :

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

WILLIAM PATERSON, M.B., Ch.B.,D.P.H.

Also holds appointments of : Medical Officer of Health :
Stratton Rural District Council
Launceston Rural District Council
Camelford Rural District Council
Launceston Borough Council

Assistant County Medical Officer, Area No. 6 Cornwall County Council

School Medical Officer, Cornwall County Council

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR :

P.DURSTON, M.A.P.H.I.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR :

J.M.V.SMITH, Cert.R.S.H.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	4,294
Population	5,110
No. of separate dwellings occupied	1,962
Rateable Value 1964	£196,629
Product of ld. rate	£787

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Rate per 1,000 estimated population</u>
<u>Live Births</u>				
Legitimate	54	26	28	10.958
Illegitimate	2	-	2	
<u>Stillbirths</u>	2	1	1	34.48 per 1,000 total births.
<u>Deaths (all causes)</u>	72	36	36	14.09

Deaths from Puerperal Causes :-

Puerperal and post-abortive)	
sepsis)	N I L
Other Puerperal Causes)	

Infant Mortality (Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births)

1	1	-	17.857
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	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	7	6	13
Measles (all ages)	-	-	-
Whooping Cough (all ages)	-	-	-
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	-	-	-

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE URBAN
DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BUDE/STRATTON.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1964.

The vital statistics show that the number of deaths was 19 fewer than in the previous year, with a rise of eight in the number of live births. In spite of this, the adverse balance of deaths over births continued. The estimated mid-year population, however, rose by 70 to 5110. Heart disease, cancer and vascular lesions of the nervous system, in that order, once more headed the list of causes of death. One infant death and two stillbirths were recorded.

There was a small outbreak of measles during the year, with the maximum incidence in March. No cases of diphtheria and none of poliomyelitis were notified.

In the field of sewerage and sewage disposal, the Council's consulting engineers continued their investigations into the scheme of disposal by submarine pipeline. With regard to the water undertaking, the consulting engineers continued the work of preparation of a scheme for the improvement of supplies to certain areas of the Urban District, although, towards the end of the year, the possibility of the absorption of the Council's water undertaking into that of the North Devon Water Board appeared to take more definite shape, with a meeting of representatives of the two undertakings.

To fulfil the detailed requirements of the Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963, the Council engaged an additional Public Health Inspector, Mr. J.M.V. Smith, who took up his appointment in July.

I must express my thanks to Mr. Durston, the Council's Senior Public Health Inspector, for the valuable assistance he has given in all aspects of our work and in the preparation of this report. The Council's other Departments have continued their willing co-operation. I am grateful to the General Practitioners of the District for their continued co-operation.

Once again, it is a pleasure to express my appreciation of the help and encouragement I have received from the Council and, in particular, from the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

WILLIAM PATERSON

Medical Officer of Health

Natural and Social Conditions

Area (in acres) 4,294. The Urban District of Bude/Stratton is partly a health and seaside resort and partly agricultural in character. It is bounded at its western extremity by the Atlantic Ocean, the coast-line in this particular part of north Cornwall running almost due north and south.

Whilst the hinterland is undulating and hilly in character, contour heights seldom rise above 500 feet and this no doubt is in part the explanation for the exceedingly moderate rainfall figures (average annual rainfall for 20 years 33.74"), which in view of exposure to the prevailing south westerly winds, might be expected to be considerably higher.

Population - The Registrar General has estimated the population for the mid-year 1964 to be 5,110, an increase of 170 on the previous year. In 1964 there were 56 births and 72 deaths, 16 more deaths than births.

Deaths - The total number of deaths assigned to the District for the year was 72, compared with 91 in 1963. The crude death rate based on the mid-year population was 14.09, compared with 18.42 in 1963. The following table has been compiled for comparison with previous years :-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Recorded Rate</u>
1960	90	37	53	17.20
1961	85	44	41	17.31
1962	91	38	53	18.42
1963	91	50	41	18.42
1964	72	36	36	14.09

In order to compare the mortality in the District with the mortality for England and Wales, it is necessary to make a correction to allow for the difference in age and sex distribution of the two populations. This is done by applying to the crude death rate of the District an "Area Comparability Factor" which has been estimated by the Registrar General as 0.66 for this District.

The Standardised Death Rate, therefore, is 9.299 which may be compared with that of 11.3 (provisional) for England and Wales.

Births - The number of live births assigned to this District was 56 compared with 48 in 1963. The rate per thousand of the population is 10.958. When the Registrar General's Area Comparability Factor for births (1.25) is applied to this figure, the Standardised Birth Rate of 13.697 for this District compares with 18.4 (provisional) for England and Wales.

Stillbirths - There were two stillbirths during 1964.

Illegitimate Births - There were two illegitimate births assigned to the District during the year, compared with one in 1963. Shown as a proportion of the total number of live births, this represents 3.57 per cent.

Maternal Mortality - No maternal deaths were recorded during the year.

Infant Mortality - There was one infant death in 1964

<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Cause of Death</u>
M	10 months	Congenital heart disease

N.B. Vital Statistics. It is important that too much weight should not be attached to small variations in these rates from one year to another, particularly where relatively small populations are involved - attention should rather be paid to the trend of these rates over a period of years.

MORTALITY TABLE

Classified in accordance with 36 headings based on the Abbreviated List of the International Statistical Classifications of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death, 1955.

<u>Cause of Death</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infection	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	-	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	-	1
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	3	2	5
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	-	-
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1	1
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	3	3	6
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
16. Diabetes	-	-	-
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	4	7	11
18. Coronary disease, angina	4	3	7
19. Hypertension/with heart disease	1	2	3
20. Other heart disease	7	12	19
21. Other circulatory disease	2	1	3
22. Influenza	-	-	-
23. Pneumonia	3	2	5
24. Bronchitis	2	-	2
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	1	-	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	1	-	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	1	-	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	1	-	1
33. Motor vehicle accidents	-	-	-
34. All other accidents	-	1	1
35. Suicide	-	1	1
36. Homicide and Operations of War	-	1	1
	36	36	72

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

General Medical Services

General medical services under Part IV of the National Health Service Act, 1946, are provided by medical practitioners resident in the district, and in adjoining districts, all of whom undertake maternity medical services.

County Council Services

- I Health Department. The County Council is the local health authority for the purposes of Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946, and provides the following services in the district :-
 - (a) Midwifery and Home Nursing. Nurse-midwives are provided to attend general nursing and midwifery cases in the home.
 - (b) Health Visiting. Health Visitors are available to give advice on health matters in the home or at the clinic. Originally concerned with the care of mothers and young children, which is still their basic function, they are increasingly concerned with other age groups, particularly the aged. Some health visitors combine this work with general nursing and midwifery. All act also as school nurses.
 - (c) Child Welfare Centre. A Child Welfare Clinic is held monthly at the Castle, Bude.
 - (d) Dental Clinic. Priority dental treatment for expectant and nursing mothers and pre-school children is available at the Dental Clinic held at the Castle, Bude.
 - (e) Vaccination and Immunisation. Facilities for vaccination against smallpox and immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus, and for poliomyelitis vaccination, are provided at the Child Welfare Clinic or by the supply of materials to the family doctor.
 - (f) Home Help Service. Home helps are employed to provide domestic help for households in certain circumstances, a charge being made for this service according to the means of the person concerned.
 - (g) Ambulance Service. A service of ambulances for the conveyance of sick, accident and emergency cases is provided. For sitting cases, utilecon sitting case vehicles are used. When appropriate, some such cases are carried by the Hospital Car Service, a voluntary organisation. Day-to-day administration of the service is carried out from Ambulance Control, Bodmin.

(h) Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care.

A full-time tuberculosis health visitor is provided for the care and after-care of tuberculous persons. District nurses are available to assist in the home treatment of such persons when required by the Chest Physician or family doctor. Routine tuberculin testing and, if necessary, B.C.G. vaccination (i.e. vaccination against tuberculosis) is provided for senior school children.

Certain special investigations are carried out in other types of illness by district health visitors, while health education is carried out by the County's medical and nursing staff.

- (j) Mental Health. The County Council has certain responsibilities in connection with the ascertainment of mental ill-health and mental deficiency, with the provision of statutory supervision, etc. for mental defectives living in the community, and with the provision of after-care following treatment for mental illness. The Mental Welfare Officer for the district works from the Health Area Office, Launceston.

II Education Department. As local Education Authority, the County Council is responsible for the School Health Service, which provides the following :-

Periodic Medical Inspection of pupils
Cleanliness Surveys of pupils
Dental Inspection and treatment of pupils
Ascertainment of handicapped pupils in need of special education
Treatment Clinic at the Castle, Bude:
Dental Clinics each Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.
Child Guidance, by arrangement at Launceston Child Guidance Clinic.
Speech Therapy - by appointment each Thursday

III Welfare Department. This service is concerned with the welfare of the aged, and with that of various categories of handicapped persons. It is concerned also with the provision of temporary accommodation in certain circumstances for persons in urgent need thereof. The Welfare Officer for the District works from the Health Area Office, Launceston.

Hospital Services.

The South Western Regional Hospital Board is the hospital authority for the Area.

Stratton Cottage Hospital provides in-patient and out-patient facilities in the district. Patients are referred also to hospitals in Plymouth and elsewhere. Cases of infectious disease are admitted to the Scott Isolation Hospital, Plymouth, and tuberculosis patients to Didworthy or Tehidy Sanatoria. Mental hospital accommodation is provided by St. Lawrence's Hospital and Laninval House, Bodmin and Moorfields Hospital, Ivybridge, Devon.

An Orthopaedic Clinic is held weekly at the Castle, Bude and a Physiotherapy Clinic at Dawfield Hospital, Holsworthy. The Chest Clinic is held at Stratton Hospital. An Ophthalmic Clinic for school and pre-school children is held periodically at the Castle, Bude. A Specialist Ante-Natal Clinic is held in Launceston each week.

Laboratory Facilities.

These are provided by the Public Health Laboratories at Exeter and Plymouth, to which specimens for bacteriological examination are submitted.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

WATER SUPPLIES. Once again there are no major changes to be reported in this field. The Consultant Engineers engaged by the Council in 1963 are actively engaged in preparing a scheme for the improvement of supplies to the less well served areas, and in particular the village of Poughill, but by the end of the year no final report had been received. In the meantime the Council's Water Engineer had instituted a system for the temporary supply of wholesome drinking water to those properties in the hamlet of Bush which were mainly dependent on surface water springs. This apart, the year passed without any serious incidents. The supply to the Widemouth Bay area continued to be maintained at a relatively satisfactory level, since the take-over of the Undertaking by the Council.

Comparative rainfall figures indicate that the year was a relatively dry one, the annual rainfall being 25.37" - the lowest for ten years. During the months of June, July and August the rainfall figures were 1.37", 2.47" and 1.51" respectively, compared with 2.36", 2.57" and 3.65" respectively in the corresponding month of the previous year. In spite of this, no major crises in distribution occurred, and Tamar Lake maintained a high water level.

In view of the acquisition of additional staff, it has been possible to revert to more regular bacteriological sampling of the water supplies. A summary of the results of analyses is appended, and with very few exceptions these have been satisfactory. In the event of an unsatisfactory report, the information has been passed on to the Water Engineer, and appropriate action taken.

Summary of bacteriological reports.

Filterbeds, Vealand.

(Filtered but unchlorinated)

Satisfactory
(No organisms)

Unsatisfactory

12

6

Tap water samples (Filtered and chlorinated)

	<u>Class I</u>	<u>Class II</u>	<u>Class III</u>	<u>Class IV</u>
Bude	8	Nil	Nil	2
Stratton	8	Nil	Nil	Nil
Poughill	7	Nil	Nil	1
Marhamchurch	5	Nil	Nil	Nil

It should, perhaps, be added that the future of the Council's Water Undertaking remains uncertain. In October of 1964 a Joint Meeting was held between Representatives of the Council and of the North Devon Water Board. At that meeting procedure and implications, financial and otherwise, in the event of a take-over by the Board, were explained to the Council's Representatives, but by the end of the year no definite moves had been made.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

On the Council's instructions, the Consulting Engineers who prepared the preliminary report on Sewerage and Sewage Disposal developed their investigations into the proposal to lay a submarine pipe line. In November the Consultants reported that the spring tide tests had been completed satisfactorily, but that the neap tide tests were incomplete due to unfavourable wind and weather conditions. They were, however, prepared to give an interim report, and this the Council requested them to do. From this report it appeared, pending completion of the tests, that a submarine outfall at Crooklets was a reasonable practicability, and the Council requested the Consultants to continue their investigations in this field.

As a result of these necessarily protracted investigations, no improvements of any real significance have been undertaken at the Stratton sewage disposal works. This work becomes progressively more urgent, and, indeed, a serious view of the present standard of effluent is taken by the Cornwall River Board, who have expressed their concern over the matter to the Council on several occasions. In a preliminary report the Consultants suggested possible alternative solutions to the problem, the first being the installation of rotary filters at the works at Stratton, and the second, which appears to receive most approval, to pump the sewage to a point at Hillhead through a newly constructed trunk sewer, and then to the outfall at Bude. Whichever alternative is finally selected, it is very certain that the matter is one of considerable urgency. With the position at the Stratton sewage works as it is at present, it is obviously undesirable to increase the burden borne by the works substantially. This has meant that the sewerage of the Poundfield/Stamford area has again had to be postponed. It is to be hoped that both matters will receive very urgent attention.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

The Council has retained the services of the trained Rodent Operator, who is engaged for most of the year on a four day week, and at busy periods for a five day week. In view of the reduction in man-hours, it has not been possible to maintain the degree of survey work which was formerly carried out. This is to be regretted, since surveys are extremely important in the work of rodent control, as they prevent the establishment of major infestations before treatments are given. This lack of survey work has been all too obvious when treating business and agricultural properties, as well as the Council's own properties, in the sizes of infestations encountered.

The sewers of the District have been given their annual treatments, and the degree of infestation remains relatively small. In addition, some "block treatments", that is, the treatment of contiguous drains and sewers with a particular property, have been carried out.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

There are at present in the District the following licensed sites:-

- (a) A small holiday site for 4 caravans, and for tented accommodation at Bush.
- (b) A holiday site for 30 caravans and 75 tents at Lynstone Farm.
- (c) A Residential site for 15 caravans at Maer Farm.
- (d) A holiday site for 185 caravans, and for tented accommodation at Grenville Gate.

Of these sites, all but the first are provided with flush sanitation and main water supply. As the first is very small, and in a comparatively isolated area, the existing chemical closets were considered sufficient. All of the other sites now comply with the Ministry's Model Standards.

The co-operation of the operators of licensed sites has been readily forthcoming in maintaining standards of cleanliness and compliance with the other required standards. Operators have arrangements whereby their combustible refuse is burned on the site, the remainder of the refuse being collected by the Council's refuse lorry at the times of collection normal to the areas of the respective sites.

During the season, some casual camping occurred on such places as roadside verges, but did not assume very large proportions, and no serious nuisances occurred. This would seem to suggest that the present facilities for campers in the District are approximately equal to the demand for such facilities.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The Cornwall County Council control most of the roads in the District, but the work of street cleansing is carried out mainly by the staff of the Urban District Council.

The method of disposal by controlled tipping has continued, and the present tip at Tiscott Wood appears to have ample capacity for some time to come. The use of partial incineration has again been found useful in the reduction of combustible refuse. The incinerator is sited on the Council's property at the Wharf, Bude.

The Council's refuse collection vehicle, of the compression type, acquired in 1962, while effecting to some extent a saving in refuse collection costs, did not do so quite to the extent which had been hoped, but the dustless loading is a considerable advantage over the old method of open side loading.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT

Section 47 - no action

Section 50 - no action

HOUSING

During the year, no Council houses were built. This was due in part to the high cost of building in the District, and in part to the Council's view that present-day economic rents would be beyond the means of most prospective tenants, in an area where the level of wages is well below the national average.

The slum problem is not a serious one numerically in the District, most unfit properties being dealt with individually when existing Council accommodation becomes available for re-housing the tenants. During the past few years, the position has also been eased by the improvement of many of the older houses either privately, or by means of standard grants, and undoubtedly the rate of improvement would increase if the Council were to consider applications for discretionary grants. The situation would be further helped if the Council were to provide a limited number of houses for rehousing tenants in unfit properties.

Due partly to infilling within the residential areas, and partly to fringe development on the outskirts of the District, it is gratifying to be able to report an improvement in the number of private houses built during the year, in fact the best for many years. It is to be hoped that this tendency continues to develop, as, at the moment, it shows every sign of doing. Comparative figures are given below :-

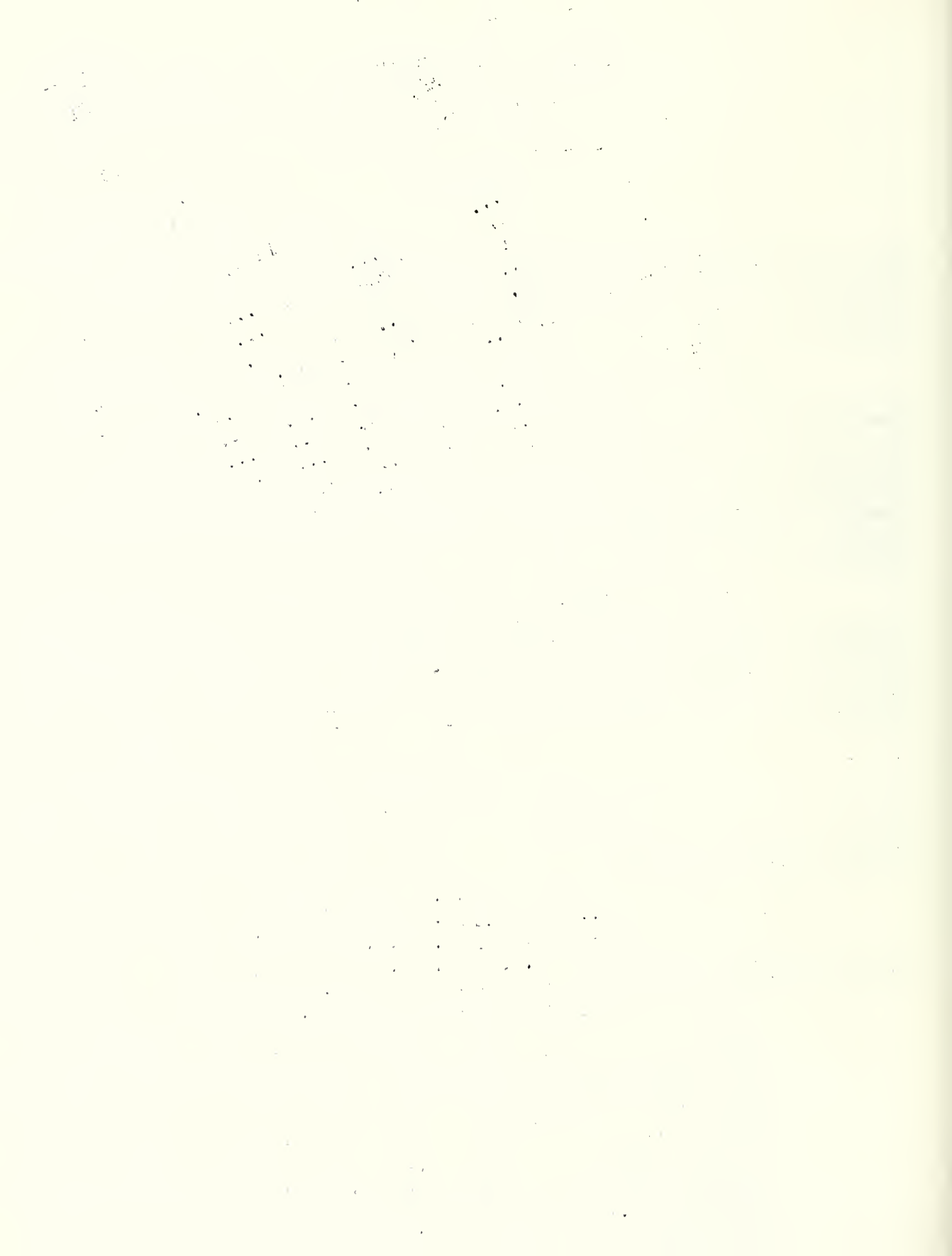
	<u>1964</u>	<u>1963</u>
Houses completed during the year	21	12
Houses in course of erection at the end of the year	10	11

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Food Premises and Clean Food

The number and types of premises in the District are :-

Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Restaurants and hotel kitchens	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
Bakers and confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Ice-cream dealers	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Boarding houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	55
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
School canteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	3



No. of inspections of registered food premises157

No. of inspections of other food premises229

Food Hygiene Regulations

Due to the appointment, in July, 1964, of Mr.J.M.V.S.Smith as Additional Public Health Inspector, it was possible, later in the season, to place more emphasis on the inspection of this type of premises, than had been possible in recent seasons. Inspections and advisory visits are a very important part of the work in a seaside resort, and in this respect the Department has always been of the opinion that prevention is better than cure. Informal comment and advice is generally acceptable to management staffs, and in spite of difficulties imposed by the seasonal character of the trade, good standards, with very few exceptions, have been maintained, and no formal action has been required.

Meat Inspection.

The Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963, came into force on 1st October, 1963. These Regulations impose upon local authorities the duty of inspecting all meat slaughtered within their areas, previous legislation having been permissive in this respect. They also empower local authorities to charge the operators of slaughterhouses for inspection, in accordance with a limiting scale. Under the Regulations, inspectors are required, as far as possible, to be present at the time of slaughter, and to mark all meat passed as fit for human consumption with an identifying stamp. Inspectors are also required to carry out the inspection in accordance with a detailed schedule of examination, this having previously been left to the discretion and experience of the inspector.

Before the Regulations came into force, 100% inspection had been achieved by your inspector, to some degree at the expense of other work. The additional time required by the Regulations made it clear that one inspector could no longer carry out this work, in addition to his existing commitments and other duties foreshadowed by coming legislation, and the Council, in order to fulfil their obligations, advertised for an additional inspector.

After considerable difficulty and various re-advertisements, an appointment was made, and the additional Public Health Inspector commenced his duties in July, 1964. This has considerably eased the work of meat inspection and compliance with the Regulations, and has meant that one inspector is available for other duties.

The total number of animals slaughtered during the year showed a noticeable increase over previous years, although this was mainly attributable to sheep. The total throughput for the year as compared with 1963 was as follows :-

			<u>1964</u>	<u>1963</u>
Cattle other than cows	...		468	504
Cows	...	...	384	439
Calves	...	...	129	147
Sheep and lambs	...	...	28,203	20,036
Pigs	...	...	14,109	14,240
			<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals			43,293	35,366
			<hr/>	<hr/>

Table V shows a decrease in the incidence of tuberculosis in cattle, there being only one case of partial condemnation, and this in a known reactor. The incidence of the disease in pigs showed an increase, although in no case was the disease generalised. The figure for cysticercosis remained exactly the same, although all cases were in cattle other than cows. Deep freeze treatment of such cases continues to be carried out at the slaughterhouse.

Disposal of condemned meat and other foods.

Condemned meat, both from the slaughterhouse and butchers' shops, is removed by a contractor, who sterilises and processes it, and converts it into animal feeding stuffs.

Tinned and similar goods are taken to the Council's refuse tip and buried.

Ice-cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1959.

There are 40 ice-cream dealers in the District whose premises are registered. Of these 32 retail the product, and 8 do not at the moment. There are no manufacturer-retailers in the District, all the ice-cream on retail sale being the products of the multiple manufacturers. On sampling, the wrapped variety has maintained a high standard throughout, but trouble has again been experienced with the bulk loose type. At the beginning of the season, many samples of this type of the product produced unsatisfactory results, necessitating inspection and advisory visits, and repetition of sampling. Ultimately, completely satisfactory results were obtained, once a satisfactory routine of handling and sterilisation of utensils had been established.

During the season an average number of samples was taken, and the picture produced is slightly better than in the previous year; in fact, taking into account the repetition of sampling from the less satisfactory traders, the overall picture can be regarded as above average. The results of sampling, expressed as percentages, is given below.

Summary of results of samples - 1964

Provisional methylene blue test

Results in Grade one	-	63.01%
two	-	21.92%
three	-	12.33%
four	-	2.74%

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Classified list of factories as at 31st December, 1964.

<u>Nature of employment</u>	<u>Power</u>	<u>Non-power</u>
1. Food manufacture	4	-
2. Wearing apparel		
(a) Boots and shoes	2	1
(b) Outfitting	1	-
3. Carpentry, joinery and saw mills	6	2
4. Garages, repair shops and engineers	12	-
5. Laundries	-	-
6. Monumental masons	1	-
7. Gas works	1	-
8. Plumbers	-	2
9. Dairies	-	-
10. Photography	1	2
11. Printing works	1	-
12. Electrical engineers	1	2
13. Cabinet makers and upholsterers	-	2

Prescribed Particulars of the Factories Act, 1961, are attached as an appendix to this report in accordance with Circular 1/60 of the Ministry of Health.

Summary of Public Health Inspector's Inspections, etc.

This is shown in Table IV, page 19

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The infectious diseases which are statutorily notifiable to the Medical Officer of Health are the following :- Smallpox, Cholera, Diphtheria, Membranous Croup, Erysipelas, Scarlet Fever, Typhus Fever, Typhoid Fever, Paratyphoid Fever, Relapsing fever, Plague, Poliomyelitis, Tuberculosis, Malaria, Dysentery, Puerperal Pyrexia, Ophthalmia Neonatorum, Acute primary pneumonia, Acute influenzal pneumonia, Whooping cough, Measles, Acute encephalitis, Meningococcal infection, Anthrax and Food Poisoning.

In cases of infectious disease, preliminary investigations are carried out by the Public Health Inspector, when advice is given regarding current disinfection, segregation of contacts, etc. Terminal disinfection, when necessary, is carried out under the supervision of the Public Health Inspector.

The monthly incidence of infectious disease is shown in Table III.

Smallpox - No case was notified during the year, in the course of which 50 primary vaccinations and 32 re-vaccinations were carried out.

Diphtheria - No case was notified during the year, in which 64 children received a complete course of primary immunisation against the disease, the triple antigen against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus being used in almost all instances. 150 children received booster injections.

Measles - There was an outbreak of measles during the year, 108 cases being notified. The peak occurred in March, when 53 notifications were received. The infection does not appear to have been severe.

Whooping Cough - One case was notified in 1964.

Poliomyelitis - No case of this disease was notified during the year, in the course of which 86 persons received a complete course of oral vaccination.

Meningococcal Infection - One case of meningitis due to this form of infection was notified during the year. This was a young child, admitted to hospital in Plymouth, where she responded well to treatment. Nose and throat swabs from the other members of the family were submitted for bacteriological examination, but were reported as free from any disease-producing germs. No further cases occurred.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum. - This condition is a purulent discharge from the eyes of a baby within 21 days of birth. The discharge may be caused by a number of germs, one of which may produce serious symptoms. One case of this condition was notified in May. It was not of the serious variety, and responded well to treatment, with no after effects.

Food Poisoning - No cases were notified during 1964.

Tuberculosis.

	<u>Males</u>		<u>Females</u>	
	<u>Pul.</u>	<u>Non-Pul.</u>	<u>Pul.</u>	<u>Non-Pul.</u>
Cases on Register 31.12.63	14	1	3	-
No. of cases notified during the year	-	-	1	-
Cases restored	-	-	-	-
Inward Transfers	1	-	-	-
Cases removed	1	-	-	-
<hr/>				
Total on Register 31.12.64	14	1	4	-

B.C.G. Vaccination continues to be offered to all susceptible contacts of known cases, most of whom avail themselves of this protection.

The scheme for B.C.G. Vaccination of susceptible ^{senior} school children was continued by the County Council during the year, again with a good response.

OTHER DISEASES

Cancer of the Lung. During 1964, there were seven male and six female deaths from all forms of cancer. Of these, the deaths of three males and two females were due to cancer of the lung. The total of deaths from this cause in the Urban District since 1949 is now 24 male and nine female deaths. During the same period there have been 90 male and 101 female deaths from all forms of cancer.

Cancer of the Cervix. This type of cancer affects women, and involves the neck of the womb. Of recent years, a method has been evolved for the early detection of the condition before it reaches the cancerous stage. This depends on certain special facilities not yet readily available.

To enable an early detection service to be provided in the County as soon as these facilities become available, the County Council in November, on the advice of the County Medical Officer, resolved to amend its proposals under the National Health Service Act, 1946, to include provision for this service. Although the proposal has now received the approval of the Ministry of Health, at the time of preparing this report it has not been possible to make a start on the provision of the service.

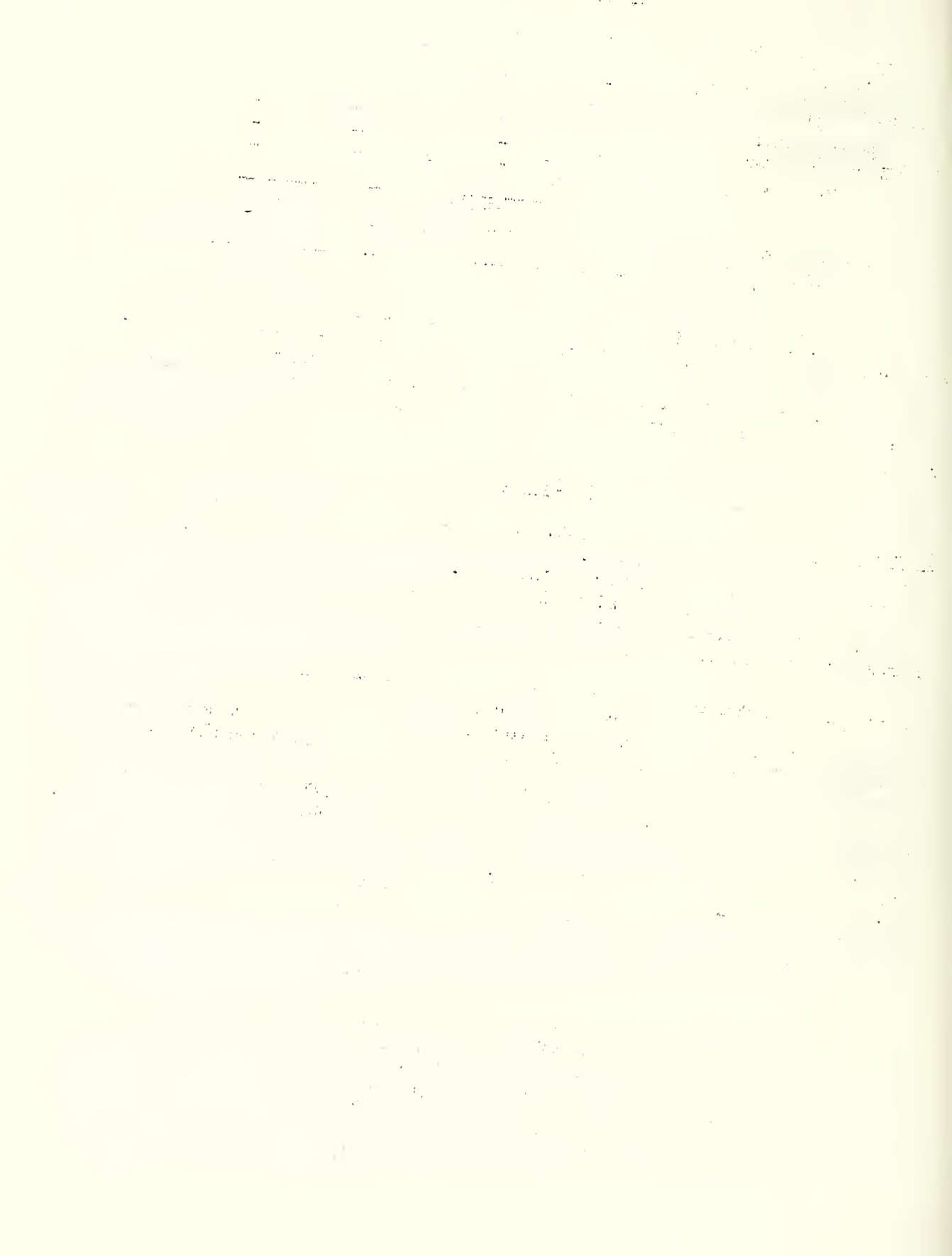


TABLE I

TUBERCULOSIS

Age and Sex Distribution of Cases and Deaths - 1964

<u>Age Groups</u>	<u>New Cases</u>				<u>Deaths</u>			
	<u>Pul.</u>		<u>Other</u>		<u>Pul.</u>		<u>Other</u>	
	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
0 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Age unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

TABLE II

VITAL STATISTICS

Summary for Previous Years

<u>Year</u>	<u>Population (estimated)</u>	<u>Births</u>		<u>Deaths</u>			
		<u>Number</u>	<u>Crude Rate</u>	<u>Under 1 year</u>		<u>All ages</u>	
				<u>Number</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Rate</u>
1960	5,230	72	13.76	2	27.77	90	17.20
1961	4,910	66	13.44	1	15.15	85	17.31
1962	4,940	75	15.18	-	-	91	18.42
1963	4,940	48	9.716	-	-	91	18.42
1964	5,110	56	10.958	1	17.857	72	14.09

TABLE III

Monthly Incidence of Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)

	<u>Jan.</u>	<u>Feb.</u>	<u>Mar.</u>	<u>Apr.</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>Aug.</u>	<u>Sept.</u>	<u>Oct.</u>	<u>Nov.</u>	<u>Dec.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Measles	-	9	53	28	1	2	3	3	-	9	-	-	108
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	-	9	53	28	2	2	3	4	-	10	-	-	111

TABLE IV

Summary of Public Health Inspector's Inspections

Description of premises	No. of visits	No. of defects found	No. of defects remedied
Bakehouses	7	3	3
Dairies	4	-	-
Food preparation premises	386	21	21
Factories	47	8	8
Housing	203	15	15
Butchers	180	5	5
Shops	50	-	-
Water supplies	15	3	3
Verminous premises	-	-	-
Pests destruction	68	-	-

Nuisances and defects remedied during the year

Overcrowding	-	Refuse receptacles	57
Keeping of animals	10	Camping sites	12
Sanitary accommodation		Yard paving	-
(a) insufficient	2	Dampness	9
(b) defective	5	Roofs and R.W.pipes	1
Drainage		Floors	5
(a) reconstructed	1	Walls and ceilings	3
(b) repaired	12	Windows and ventilation	9
(c) cleansed	22	Water supplies	5
Cesspools			
(a) abolished	-		
(b) repaired	8		

Total visits of all kinds made by the
Public Health Inspector during the year..... 2421

TABLE V

Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

MEAT INSPECTION

	Cattle excl. cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	468	384	129	28,203	14,109	-
Number inspected	468	384	129	28,203	14,109	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis.</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	3	16	6	159	66	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	83	136	7	2865	1271	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tubercu- losis and cysticercosis	18.37	39.58	10.06	10.72	9.48	-
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	1	Nil	Nil	206	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	Nil	0.26	Nil	Nil	1.45	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

APPENDIX

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the
Factories Act, 1961.

Part 1 of the Act

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	11	21	-	-
(ii) Factories not inclu- ded in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	26	18	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out- workers' Premises)	4	8	-	-
Total	41	47	-	-

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (Section 1)	5	5	-	-	-
Overcrowding (Section 2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (Section 3)	1	1	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (Section 4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (Section 6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (Section 7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	8	8	-	-	-

PART VIII of the Act

Outwork

(Sections 133 and 134)

N I L

